

Citizens for Justice and Peace

te: February 18 2004

,
e Honorable Chief Justice of India,
stice V N Khare.

ar Sir,

s with a deep sense of pertevation that we, the Citizens for Justice and Peace,
sh to bring to your attention a disturbing development relating to our struggle
justice and reparation to the victims of the Godhra arson and the post Godhra
nages all over Gujarat.

ias come to our notice today that none less then Shri P C Pandey, former
mmissioner of police, Ahmedabad has only recently been appointed to the post
Deputy Director CBI in the Central government.

s the timing of this appointment that makes us anxious. We are petitioners in
veral matters related to compensation, justice and accountability both in the
jarat High Court, Sessions Court Ahmedabad and this Honorable Court.

e of the critical matters that we have been handling is the Gulburg society
ssacre where over 60 innocents were brutally massacred in broad daylight in an
ack that lasted 7 hours. Meghaninagar where Gulburg society is located is
hin Ahmedabad city. The late Shri Ehsan Jaffri was one of the unfortunate
tims in this massacre.

ri PC Pandey who has now been appointed as Deputy Director CBI was
mmissioner of Police, Ahmedabad on that fateful day and even visited Shri Jaffri
10.30 a.m. on that day. It was due to his visit and arrival that re-enforcements
uld soon be sent that all residents of Gulburg society did not vacate their
mes. If they had, they would have lived. Alas, no reinforcements arrived and the
t, as they say, is sordid and tragic history. Naroda Gaon and Patiya too, where
er 110 persons were butchered in another daylight masterminded carnage (that

o lasted several hours) too comes under the jurisdiction of Commissioner of
lice Pandey at the time.

ewitness statements and fact-finding reports have directly indicted Shri PC
ndey for his failure to follow the dictates of his uniform and India's
nstitutional Mandate.

r a man who's career stands tainted by his utter and complete failure to give
tection to innocent persons under his jurisdiction, for a man against whom
ther the Gujarat government has lodged a departmental inquiry --nor the Centre
sed questions about this laxity and failure—to be appointed as Deputy Director
the CBI in the midst of the ongoing gruesome investigations being conducted by
s agency itself causes deep apprehensions and raises suspicions.

identally the prayers and reliefs demanded by many petitioners before the
norable Supreme Court include transference of investigation into the Godhra
l post Godhra carnages to CBI. If this agency is filled with hose officers from
jarat who's reputations were besmirched in their handling of the carnage, what
nfidence can such an agency have? For such an appointment, moreover to be
ected at a time when matters are being heard in the SC also makes the issue
ocking to say the least.

e fact that the party in power in Gujarat is also the same as the one that
minates the NDA alliance at the Centre and is also the same party to whom the
puty Prime Minister LK Advani—who handles the Home Portfolio and who,
refore okayed this controversial and shocking appointment is also no
ncidence. Shri Advani wins his election from Gandhinagar Gujarat and is on the
ge of fighting another term from there.

the interests of justice, justice must not only be done but be seen to be done. We
e deep exception to this appointment, felt it right that we bring it to your notice
lay and we may actually also be challenging it in court.

urs Sincerely,

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